

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: March 31, 2010

Electronic Signature for Kevin M. Kocun: /Kevin M. Kocun/

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-2153 CIP DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:	:
	:
Yuan et al.	:
	:
Application No.: 10/091,708	: Group Art Unit: 3733
	:
	:
	:
Filed: March 6, 2002	: Examiner: M. B. Priddy
	:
	:
	:
For: DEVICE FOR SECURING SPINAL RODS	:

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 20, 2010, finally rejecting claims 71-83 and 85-106, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: